

## Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE

INFO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 296833 TOSEC 240292

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, US, CAN

SUBJECT: WHITE HOUSE PRESS BRIEFING ON US-CANADA RELATIONS

FOLLOWING IS EXCERPT FROM TRANSCRIPT OF TUESDAY A.M.

WHITE HOUSE PRESS BRIEFING: BEGIN QUOTE

Q: DOES THE PRESIDENT AGREE WITH AMBASSADOR PORTER'S  
REMARKS TO REPORTERS IN OTTAWA ABOUT THE CANADIAN-U.S.  
RELATIONS?

MR. GREENER: WELL, THE PRESIDENT AND PRIME MINISTER  
TRUDEAU HAVE A LONGSTANDING PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP AND  
THERE HAS BEEN A --

Q: WHAT IS THE NATURE OF THAT?

A: CLOSE AND FRIENDLY PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP.

Q: THEY LOVE ONE ANOTHER AS BROTHERS IN THE LORD.

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A: AND OUR COUNTRIES HAVE A LONGSTANDING CLOSE AND FRIENDLY RELATIONSHIP, AND IN ANY RELATIONSHIP WITH THE TWO COUNTRIES SO CLOSELY ASSOCIATED IN EVERY RESPECT, THERE ARE BOUND TO BE DIFFERENCES THAT ARISE IN CERTAIN

AREAS. HOWEVER, THE PRESIDENT FEELS THAT THERE ARE NO PROBLEMS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES THAT ARE NOT SOLUBLE.

Q: WILL YOU REPEAT THAT AGAIN?

A: SURE.

Q: SOLUBLE MEANS THEY CAN BE DISSOLVED IN WATER.

A: SOLVABLE. DID I SAY "SOLUBLE"? EXCUSE ME.

Q: THERE ARE BOUND TO BE DIFFERENCES THAT ARISE?

A: IN ANY RELATIONSHIP WITH TWO COUNTRIES SO CLOSELY ASSOCIATED IN EVERY RESPECT, THERE ARE BOUND TO BE DIFFERENCES THAT ARISE IN CERTAIN AREAS. HOWEVER, THE PRESIDENT FEELS THAT THERE ARE NO PROBLEMS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES THAT ARE NOT SOLVABLE.

Q: SO, BILL, THE QUESTION IS WHAT IS HE GOING TO DO ABOUT IT? THIS IS VALID FACTUAL MATERIAL THAT THAT MAN HAD TO PUT OUT, MR. PORTER, AND THERE NEEDS TO BE SOMETHING -- FOR SOME TIME THERE HAS BEEN A CRY FOR THE PRESIDENT TO PUT MORE PEOPLE TO WORK ON THIS MATTER OR TO GO AND TALK HIMSELF. IS HE GOING TO DO MORE ABOUT IT THAN JUST PUT OUT A STATEMENT?

A: WELL, THE PRESIDENT HAS PEOPLE WORKING ON THE PROBLEMS.

Q: HE DOES? WHO?

A: PARTICULARLY AT STATE I AM SURE YOU ARE AWARE THAT THEY HAVE CLOSE RELATIONSHIPS.  
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Q: NO, I MEAN I WAS NOT AWARE AT ALL. I DON'T THINK THE PEOPLE ARE AWARE THAT WE HAVE ANYONE AT STATE WORKING ON THESE PROBLEMS THAT HAVE ARISEN IN THE LAST FEW MONTHS.

A: WELL, IN PARTICULAR WHICH ONE ARE YOU REFERRING TO?

Q: WELL, THERE WERE A WHOLE SLEW OF THEM MENTIONED  
IN THE PAPER TODAY -- I AM SURE YOU READ THEM.

A: WELL, I WOULD HAVE TO TAKE THEM ONE BY ONE AND GET  
THE NAMES OF THE PEOPLE AND I WILL BE GLAD TO DO THAT.

Q: YOU WOULD SAVE US A LOT OF TROUBLE JUST BY TELLING  
US WHO THESE PEOPLE ARE AT STATE THAT THE PRESIDENT  
HAS WORKING ESPECIALLY ON PROBLEMS WITH CANADA.

A: WELL, I SAY I WILL HAVE TO GET IT ONE BY ONE THE  
NAMES FOR YOU AND I WILL. I AM NOT TRYING TO DODGE IT,  
I JUST DON'T HAVE THE NAMES HERE.

Q: THIS WILL BE NEWS WHEN WE GET IT BECAUSE THIS HAS  
NOT BEEN ANNOUNCED BEFORE.

A: STATE DISCUSSED THIS IN THEIR BRIEFING YESTERDAY,  
IF I CAN FIND SOME OF IT. THEY DID NOT GIVE THE NAMES,  
HOWEVER, AND I WILL HAVE TO GET THAT FOR YOU.

Q: WELL, WHAT DID THEY SAY?

A: SARAH, I HAVE THE FULL TRANSCRIPT OF THE STATE  
BRIEFING AND YOU ARE WELCOME TO LOOK AT IT AFTERWARDS.

Q: BILL, MR. TRUDEAU, I THINK SAID IN THE HOUSE OF  
COMMONS YESTERDAY THAT MR. PORTER HAD GONE BEYOND THE  
BOUNDS OF PROPRIETY IN MAKING THE STATEMENTS AT THE  
DINNER WITH TEN NEWSMEN. DOES THE PRESIDENT THINK THAT  
MR. PORTER WAS OUT OF ORDER IN MAKING HIS REMARKS UNDER  
THOSE CIRCUMSTANCES?

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A: THE PRESIDENT MADE NO COMMENT ON AMBASSADOR PORTER'S  
ACTIONS, JUST SIMPLY AUTHORIZED ME TO MAKE THE  
STATEMENT THAT I MADE. END QUOTE INGERSOLL

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